IN THE CLAIMS:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A punch assembly, comprising:

a mandrel, comprising an elongate shaft having a distal end and a disk-shaped head opposite said distal end, said head defining an outer diameter, and a substantially flat face defined by a threaded bore formed therein, said shaft defining a generally constant diameter over its entire length;

a punch defining a generally cylindrical shape, and having circular cross-section along a longitudinal axis, a base end and a cutting end, said cutting end defining a cutting edge terminating in at least one pointed tip, said base end defining a substantially flat face having an aperture formed therethrough; and

attachment means for attaching said punch to said mandrel whereby said base end is ~~in~~ adjacent to said face and said attachment means comprising a bolt extending through said aperture and threadedly engaging said threaded bore..

2. (previously presented) The assembly of Claim 1, wherein said punch further comprises a generally cylindrical cross-section defining an outer diameter, said head outer diameter being greater than said punch outer diameter.

3. (original) The assembly of Claim 2, wherein said punch further defines a pair of opposing arcuate portions on said cutting surface in spaced relation.

4. (previously presented) The assembly of Claim 3, wherein said punch comprises a pair of said tips, said tips and said arcuate portions in alternating spaced relation with each other.

5. (canceled)

6. (previously presented) The assembly of Claim 4, wherein said mandrel comprises a elongated shaft having a solid cross-section and defining a distal end and a head end, said head extending from said head end.

7. (original) The assembly of Claim 6, wherein said head defines a generally circular cross-section and said threaded bore is located at the center of said cross-section.

8. (original) The assembly of Claim 7, wherein said punch defines a cross-section having a generally circular ring shape.

9. (currently amended) A method for creating holes in sheets of material, comprising the steps of:

obtaining a powder-actuated tool comprising a receiver;

attaching a punch assembly to said receiver, said punch assembly comprising:

a mandrel, comprising a shaft and a head, said head defining an outer diameter and a face, said face further defined by at least one threaded bore formed therethrough and within said head;

a punch defining a base end and a cutting end, said cutting end defining a cutting edge terminating in at least one tip, said base end defining a wall having a bore formed therethrough; and

attachment means for attaching said punch to said mandrel, said attachment means cooperating with said threaded bore to attach said punch base end to said face through said base end bore;

placing at least one said punch tip against said sheet; and

activating said powder-actuated tool to drive said punch in a direction that is away from said receiver, through said sheet thereby forming a said hole, said activating excluding the rotating of said punch ~~from rotating~~.

10. (original) The method of Claim 9, wherein said attaching, placing and activating steps comprises attaching, placing and activating using a punch further defining a pair of opposing arcuate portions on said cutting surface in spaced relation.

11. (original) The method of Claim 10, wherein said attaching, placing and activating steps comprises attaching, placing and activating using a punch further defining a pair of said tips, said tips and said arcuate portions in alternating space relation with each other.

12. (currently amended) The method of Claim 11, wherein said attaching, placing and activating steps comprise attaching, placing and activating using a punch assembly further defined by:

~~said mandrel further defining a threaded bore formed in said face;~~

~~said punch further defines a bore formed in said base end; and~~

said attachment means comprisinges at least one bolt inserted through said punch bore and threadedly engaging said threaded bore.

13. (original) The method of Claim 12, wherein said attaching, placing and activating steps comprise attaching, placing and activating using a mandrel defined by a diameter that is greater than a diameter defined by said punch;

whereby said diameter of said mandrel prevents said punch assembly from passing through said hole.

14. (currently amended) A punch assembly for punching a hole in a section of metal sheet, comprising:

a mandrel, comprising an elongate shaft and a head, said head defining a circular outer diameter and a generally flat face, said face further defined by at least one threaded bore formed therethrough and within said head;

a punch defining a generally hollow cylindrical shape terminating in a closed base end and an open cutting end, said cutting end defining a cutting edge at an outer periphery of said cutting end defining a pair of pointed tips having curved edges, said

curved edges adjacent to curved trough sections, said base end defining a generally flat surface, and having a bore formed therethrough; and

attachment means for attaching said punch to said mandrel whereby said base end is mated to said mandrel face via an externally-threaded member engaging said threaded bore through said punch bore.

15. (currently amended) The assembly of Claim 14, wherein:

~~said mandrel further defines a threaded bore formed in said face;~~

~~said punch further defines a bore formed in said base end; and~~

said attachment means comprises at least one bolt inserted through said punch bore and threadedly engaging said threaded bore.

16. (previously presented) The assembly of Claim 14, wherein said mandrel comprises an elongated shaft defining a distal end and a head end, said head extending from said head end.

17. (original) The assembly of Claim 14, wherein said punch defines a cross-section having a generally circular ring shape.

18. (previously presented) The assembly of Claim 14, wherein said punch further comprises a generally cylindrical cross-section defining an outer diameter, said head outer diameter being greater than said punch outer diameter.

19. (original) The assembly of Claim 14, wherein said punch further defines a pair of opposing arcuate portions on said cutting surface in spaced relation.

20. (previously presented) The assembly of Claim 19, wherein said punch comprises a pair of said tips, said tips and said arcuate portions in alternating space relation with each other.